

(via Electronic Delivery)

August 6, 2010

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals, TW-A325
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Presentation
Schools and Libraries Universal Support Mechanism – CC Docket No. 02-6;
A National Broadband Plan for Our Future -- GN Docket No. 09-51.**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Wednesday, August 4, 2010, several members of the Schools Health and Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition held a meeting with several members of the Wireline Competition Bureau. The participants are listed below. The SHLB Coalition made the following points in its discussion:

The SHLB Coalition made the following points:

1. We support reducing the administrative complexity of the E-rate filing process (supporting the EdLinc comments)
2. We do not support expanding the E-rate program to cover other services, such as wireless services to the home. There is insufficient funding in the program to serve the existing needs of schools and libraries, and this insufficiency would become even worse if additional services are added.
3. Adding dark fiber to the list of eligible services under the E-rate program would promote competition, lower costs to schools and libraries, and make more efficient use of the E-rate funds. MERIT and the Utah Education Network indicated that they have experience providing dark fiber networks to schools and libraries in a way that has generated significant cost savings for schools and libraries.
4. All providers, including non-telecommunications carriers, should be eligible to participate in the E-rate program as providers of service, including the provision of "lit" services by commercial providers, R&E networks and municipalities. R&E networks are not certificated "common carriers" because they do not serve the general public (and thus cannot participate in providing telecommunications services in the E-rate program). Yet R&E networks often serve anchor institutions and could serve many more schools and libraries if they were permitted to provide such services under the E-rate rules.



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5. In designing the Connect America Fund, the FCC should require that recipients of funding in high-cost areas should ensure that community anchor institutions (as well as residences) receive adequate broadband connections. This could be enforced through a reporting requirement.

From the SHLB Coalition:

John Windhausen, Coordinator of the SHLB Coalition

Wendy Wigen of EDUCAUSE

Lynne Bradley, American Library Association

Marijke Visser, American Library Association

Jim Smith of Davis, Wright, Tremaine (on behalf of National LambdaRail)*

Lil Kellogg, Education Networks of America*

Bob Bocher, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction*

Elwood Downing and Greg Monroe, MERIT*

Sean McGlaughlin, Access Humboldt*

Sabrina Scott, Utah Education Network*

Christy Barnhardt, The Bernstein Group (on behalf of ISTE and COSN)*

Cecilia Garcia, Benton Foundation*

From the Wireline Competition Bureau:

Sharon Gillett

Carol Matthey

Amy Bender

James Bachtell

Elise Cohen

Rebekah Goodheart

Gina Spade*

* = by phone

Sincerely,

John Windhausen, Jr.

President

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